[6th January 1954

Admission for cancer treatment in the General Hospital, Madras.

9-30 a.m. * 334 *Q*.—Sri P. KUNHIRAMA KIDAV: Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of patients admitted for cancer treatment in the Madras General Hospital in 1952;

(*b*) how many of them came from Malabar; and

(*c*) whether it is a fact that a majority of the patients coming from Malabar are unable to get admission in the hospital?

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY:—" (*a*) & (*b*) The number of patients admitted for cancer treatment in the Radium ward in the General Cancer Ward of the Government General Hospital, Madras, in 1952, was 408 of whom 167 patients came from Malabar.

" (*c*) No, Sir."

Sri P. KUNHIRAMA KIDAV:—" Sir, in view of the large number of patients from Malabar, will the Government consider the question of opening a Cancer ward at the Kozhikode Headquarters Hospital? "

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY:—" Sir, it is not possible at present. There is provision for cancer treatment in the General Hospital and the Women and Children Hospital, Madras."

Dr. K. B. MENON:—" Sir, there is a complaint that preference is shown to the patient who sees the doctor at home. Will the Hon. Minister enquire into the complaint? "

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY:—" I have no information, Sir. If any specific case is brought to my notice, I shall enquire."

Sri P. B. K. RAJACHIDAMBARAM:—" Is the Hon. Minister satisfied that the facilities in the General Hospital and the Women and Children Hospital in Madras is enough for the treatment of all cancer patients throughout the State of Madras? "

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY:—" Sir, they are far from adequate. The Government will attempt to provide facilities at some more hospitals as early as posible."

Sri K. P. GOPALAN:—" It is understood that some doctors in charge of the Cancer ward have put their agents outside and when patients come they are asked to see them first privately and pay them money and then only they get admitted. Is it a fact, Sir? "

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY:—" Sir, I have no information to that effect."

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SRI M. PALANIYANDI :—" புற்று வியாதியஸ்தர்கள் சென்னை நகரத்திற்கு வநதுதான் சிகிச்சை செய்துகொள்ள வேண்டுமென்றிருக்கிறது. ஜில்லாக்களிலுள்ள ஏழை மக்கள் இநத வியாதியினால் கஷ்டப்படும்போது சென்னை நகரத்திற்கு வரக்கூடிய நிலைமையில் இல்லாமல் இருக்கிறார்கள். ஆகவே, ஒவ்வொரு ஜில்லா ஆஸ்பத்திரியிலும் புற்று வியாதியைக் குணப்படுத்துவதற்கான வைத்திய வசதியைச் செய்து கொடுக்க சர்க்கார் முன்வருமா ? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, it is not possible at present. Cancer requires surgical treatment, radium treatment and deep X-ray treatment. It is not possible to provide all these facilities in District Headquarters Hospitals. At present, even for the X-ray plants which we have installed at the District Headquarters Hospitals for diagnostic purposes, we have not enough of properly trained men to take charge of them."

SRI C. KANDASAMY :—" சர்க்கார் ஜெனரல் ஆஸ்பத்திரியில் இந்த வியாதிக்கு சிகிச்சை அளிக்கக்கூடிய பகுதியில் இருக்கக்கூடிய டாக்டர்களில் எத்தனை பேர்கள் மலையாளிகள் என்பதை கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் தெரிவிப்பார்களா ? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, the hon. Member is paying a compliment to the Malabar people. We cannot go into it now."

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" Sir, from the figures furnished by the Hon. Minister, it is seen that there are a large number of patients coming from Malabar and evidently Malabar is more striken with cancer. In view of this, will the Hon. Minister see that further technical equipment is also made available in the Cancer ward started there? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" The previous supplementary question referred to larger number of Malayalee doctors employed in the Cancer ward and the present question refers to larger number of cancer patients. If we transfer the cancer treatment equipment from Madras to Malabar, then the complaint will become stronger."

SRI S. DEIVASIGAMANY :—" Sir, is it not in the interests of the larger humanity that the specialist departments should be decentralised and this plant installed in all the districts? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, it is necessary to have all the specialist departments in a teaching institution. In other District Headquarters Hospitals, we are opening specialist departments as and when the required personnel become available."

Fair price shops in the South Arcot district.

* 335 *Q.*—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state the total number of fair price shops in the South Arcot district on 30th June 1953; and whether any new shops were opened during the first half-year of 1953 and under what circumstances?